Closing of retail petro-outlets

2117. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Retail Outlet in petroleum products sealed and closed by the Oil Companies in Gujarat as on 1 January, 2009;

(b) the details about LPG distributor outlets in Gujarat as on 1 January, 2009; and

(c) how many from above belong to SC and ST categories?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) In the State of Gujarat, as on 1st January, 2009, 15 Retail Outlets belonging to public sector oil marketing companies *viz.* Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), have been sealed and closed under Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Out of these, 3 belong to SC category and 2 to ST category.

As on 1st January, 2009, there are 540 Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) distributorships belonging to public sector oil marketing companies, in the State of Gujarat. Out of these, 44 belong to SC category and 57 to ST category. A total number of 16 distributorships belonging to public sector oil marketing companies, in the State of Gujarat, have been sealed and closed under Marketing Discipline Guidelines. Out of these, 1 belongs to SC category and 5 to ST category.

New oil fields

2118. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the allocation of Blocks for exploration of petro-products which took place during the last three years; and

(b) the details of new exploration oil fields found during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) During the last three years (2006-09), a total of 93 Production Sharing Contract (PSCs) have been signed under sixth and seventh bid rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). The details are as under:-

	NELP-VI	NELP-VII	Total
Deepwater	21	11	32
Shallow water	6	7	13
Onland	25	23	48
GRAND TOTAL	52	41	93